

## In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A utility knife tool comprising:
  - a) a handle with a distal portion;
  - b) a blade secured to and extending from said distal portion, said blade having a cutting edge;
  - c) a blade cover that is biased to cover a cutting edge and at least a portion of a side of the blade, and moves between an operating position in which the blade is exposed, and a safety position in which the blade is covered; and
  - d) a manually triggered self-locking release assembly, internal to the handle, that automatically unlocks the cover when a trigger is operated, so that the cover can be retracted, and re-engages the locking assembly upon manual retraction of the cover, so that the cover automatically locks in place when the cover is returned to the safety position ~~relocks the cover when retracted.~~
2. (Previously Amended) The tool of Claim 1 wherein the cover retracts into the handle.
3. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the cover and the trigger are each biased by springs.
4. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the release assembly is actuated by a trigger located on an inferior surface of the handle.
5. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the cover retracts linearly into the handle.
- 6-10. Canceled.